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Taxes and Sympathy

"Residents of this town near Hartford whose wells have been polluted by chemicals dumped nearby have appealed their property-tax assessments, saying the contamination would make it difficult to sell their homes.

"The nine wells were contaminated by cancer-causing chemicals dumped by the John Swift Chemical Company more than six years ago.

" 'We can't compensate you for what's happened, but we may lower your assessments,' Mark Steier, chairman of the tax review board, told the residents at a hearing."

—*The New York Times*
March 26, 1979



